Acknowledgements

For the 1996 Water Quality Assessment, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has reviewed water quality information from as many reliable sources as possible. For the first time, we have used data from many volunteer groups. The Department wishes to thank the following groups:

♦ Affiliates of Clean Water/Partners in Monitoring

Camden PIM

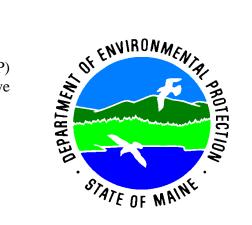
Deer Isle/Stonington PIM

Eliot Volunteer Monitoring Program

Georges River Tidewater Watch

Medomak River Volunteer Monitoring Program

- ♦ Androscoggin River Watershed Pollution Prevention Project
- ♦ Friends of Casco Bay
- Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, Inc.
- **♦ Presumpscot Riverwatch**
- **♦ Sheepscot Valley Conservation Association**



In recent years, the Department has cooperated in the training of volunteers to gather data. Our thanks go to the **University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service**, the **River Watch Network**, the **State Planning Office**, and the **USEPA Environmental Services Division** who have assisted in volunteer coordination and training.

Special acknowledgement goes to the **Penobscot Indian Nation** who conducted a comprehensive monitoring program for rivers, streams and lakes in the Penobscot River Valley during 1994 and 1995, and who also assisted the Department with our monitoring work. This data has given us the most thorough assessment of water quality for any basin in the state. Additional sources of data include:

- **♦** Casco Bay Estuary Project
- **♦ Maine Department of Human Services**
- **♦** Maine Department of Marine Resources
- **♦ USEPA Environmental Services Division**
- ◆ US Geological Survey, Maine District Office

Information received from businesses through permit applications and compliance monitoring have also been incorporated into the 1996 Maine Water Quality Assessment. *The following report is a condensed version of this assessment.*

Compiled and designed by Lawrence Comeau

Produced by the Maine Department of

Environmental Protection,

Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Printing partially funded by the

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Table of Contents	
Introduction	page 1
Total Waters-Natural resource satistics, major riversheds	page 2
Water Quality Summary-Explanation of uses, levels of support, water classifications, causes affecting use support, toxics and fish consumption advisories	pages 3-9
Water Pollution Control Programs	page 10
Water Quality Monitoring-Sampling program components, primary data gathering methods	pages 11-12
Lakes Assessment	pages 13-18
Rivers, Streams, and Brooks Assessment	pages 19-22
Estuary and Coastal Water Assessment	pages 23-27
Wetlands Assessment	page 28
Groundwater Assessment	pages 29-36
List of DEP Publications and Materials	pages 36-38